

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

May 28, 2010

The Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III
Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
935 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC, 20535

Dear Director Mueller,

We write to urge the Federal Bureau of Investigation to investigate allegations that last summer former President Bill Clinton, at the urging of the White House, and possibly others discussed with Representative Joseph Sestak his interest in serving in the Administration in exchange for his withdrawal from the Pennsylvania Senate primary race.

In a report released today, the White House makes no effort to deny that such conversation took place. In fact, the White House defends the offer to Rep. Sestak because of a "legitimate interest in averting a divisive primary fight." Not surprisingly, the White House's own report clears White House officials and former President Bill Clinton of wrongdoing.

But assurances by the Obama White House that no laws were broken are like the Nixon White House promising it did nothing illegal in connection with Watergate. Clearly, an independent investigation is necessary to determine once and for all what really happened.

Taken at face value, it appears that violations of federal law—including 18 U.S.C. § 600, 18 U.S.C. § 211, and 18 U.S.C. § 595—may have occurred. These statutes prohibit solicitation of certain public offices, promising government employment in exchange for political activity, and improper interference by Administration employees in political campaigns.

Despite the seriousness of these allegations, we are disappointed that the Justice Department has denied any request to appoint a Special Counsel to investigate this matter. That's why we're calling on the FBI to look into the allegations.

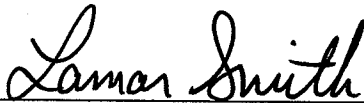
Because of the alleged involvement of high ranking Administration officials, any investigation into criminal activity by the White House should be spearheaded by the FBI. Admissions that the White House intentionally sought to manipulate the outcome of a Democratic Senate Primary strike at the heart of our democracy. Only a full criminal investigation can restore integrity to our election process.

We are equally concerned about steps taken by the White House leading up to the issuance of today's report, including a meeting between former President Clinton and President Obama and reports that Rep. Sestak's brother and campaign manager was consulted on the drafting of the White House report. The apparent collusion between the parties involved may constitute obstruction of justice. We urge the FBI to investigate.

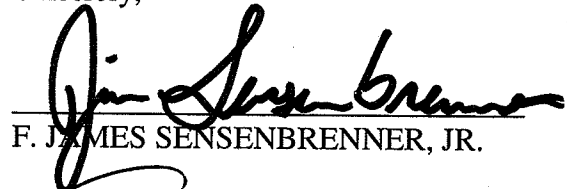
The admissions made in the White House's own report appear sufficient for a criminal investigation. The FBI has a responsibility to investigate all claims of public corruption, especially corruption at the highest level of our government.

Because of the seriousness of this matter and the potential influence that these unresolved allegations could have on the political process, we request a written response and a briefing by you, or senior members of your staff, no later than June 11, 2010.


Sincerely,



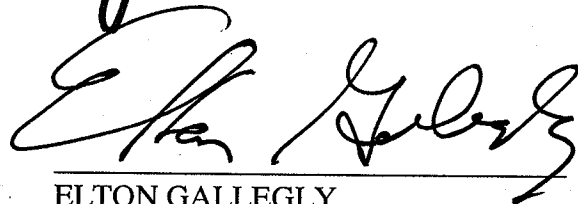
LAMAR SMITH
Ranking Member



F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.



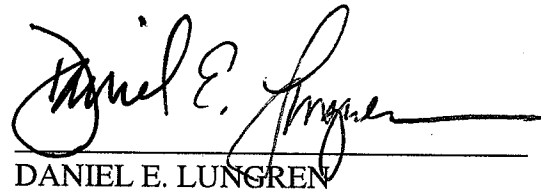
HOWARD COBLE



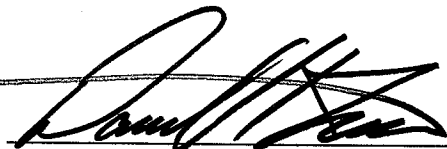
ELTON GALLEGLY



BOB GOODLATTE



DANIEL E. LUNGREN



DARRELL ISSA



STEVE KING



TRENT FRANKS



LOUIE GOHMERT

The Honorable Robert S. Mueller, III

May 28, 2010

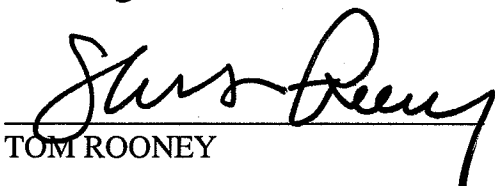
Page 3



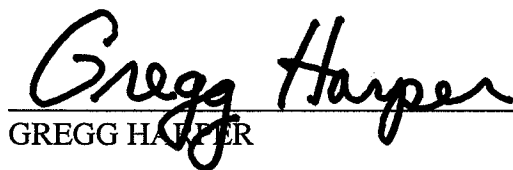
JIM JORDAN



JASON CHAFFETZ



TOM ROONEY



GREGG HARPER

cc: The Hon. John Conyers, Jr.